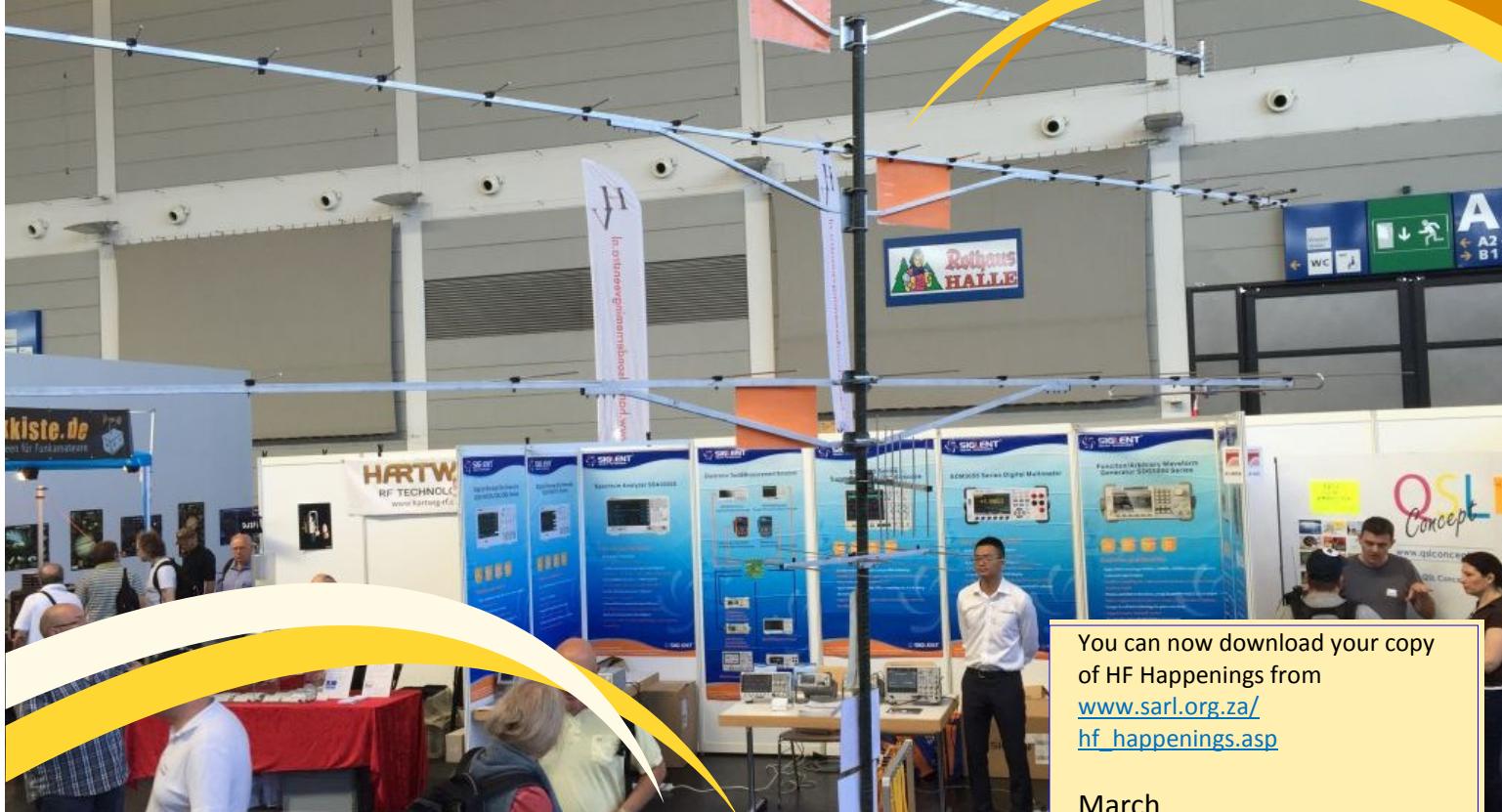


# hf happenings 745

South African Radio League \* Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925



Volume 15, Issue 09, the week of 13 March 2017



## South African Radio League to Hold Workshop on the Rising RF Noise Floor

Recently, following a concern raised by the South African Radio League at the SABS TC73 meeting, it was agreed that the question of the increasing level of the RF noise floor should be included in the Strategic Business Plan of the technical committee and added to the work schedule of Working Group 6.

Noise in this context denotes unwanted radio frequency (RF) energy from man-made sources. Like many spectrum users, Radio Amateurs have reported that the noise floor in the radio spectrum is rising as the number of devices in use that emit radio energy grows. However, in search for concrete evidence of an increased noise floors, it appears that only limited quantitative data to support this presumption is available.

The League is convening a Saturday morning workshop on 22 April to develop a co-ordinated programme and form a study group with the objective of establishing a monitoring system to assemble more information while also considering mitigation methods to deal with man-made noise affecting amateur radio frequencies.

This will be an open meeting and everyone who has an interest in the subject is invited to attend. The workshop will be held at the National Amateur Radio Centre.

If you have a special interest, expertise or experience in this field please share this at the workshop. For more details, please e-mail [sarlregwg@sarl.org.za](mailto:sarlregwg@sarl.org.za) with your contact details

## NVIS Research Paper available

The paper 'Radio communication via Near Vertical Incidence Skywave propagation: an overview' by Rosa Ma Alsina-Pagès and Ben A. Witvliet is now available.

Near Vertical Incidence Skywave (NVIS) propagation can be used for radio communication in a large area (200 km radius) without any intermediate human-made infrastructure. It is therefore especially suited for disaster relief communication, communication in

*(Continued on page 2)*

You can now download your copy of HF Happenings from  
[www.sarl.org.za/  
hf\\_happenings.asp](http://www.sarl.org.za/hf_happenings.asp)

## March

3 - World Day of Prayer for Women

4 - World day of Prayer for Men

### **CTARC Bumper Flea market**

5 - **SARL Hamnet 40 m Contest**

8 to 14 - Scifest Africa, Grahamstown

11 and 12 - **SARL VHF/UHF Contest; RSGB Commonwealth Contest**

12 - Purim; Cape Town Cycle Tour

16 to 20 - Wild Trout Festival, Rhodes

17 - St Patrick's Day

17 to 19 - Lambert's Bay Kreeffees  
20 - Autumn Equinox; School holiday

21 - Human Right's Day

25 and 26 - **CQ WPX SSB Contest**

27 - **Closing date Radio ZS April**

31 March to 9 April - Stars of Sandstone, Ficksburg

31 - All schools close

## April

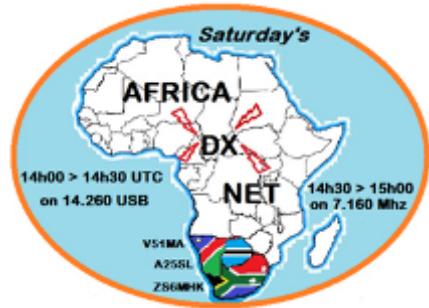
to 9 April - Stars of Sandstone, Ficksburg

1 - **RaDAR Challenge; April Fools**

(Continued from page 1)

developing regions and applications where independence of local infrastructure is desired, such as military applications.

NVIS communication uses frequencies between approximately 3 and 10 MHz. A comprehensive overview of NVIS research is given, covering propagation, antennas, diversity, modulation and coding. Both the bigger picture and the important details are given, as well as the relation between them. Download the paper from <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11235-017-0287-2>



## Don Miller, W9WNV Interview

The following was sent out by Martti, OH2BH, on 3 March [edited]: Don Miller, W9WNV Interview by Martti Laine, OH2BH.

We are all powered by dreams of distant lands, rare DX and the urge to compete and stand up at the podium. Those dreams are often inspired by those whom we admire and want to be on par with – or even more.

Don Miller, W9WNV, was once a DX hero and a CQ WW Contest SOAB dual record holder (CW/SSB), but suddenly left the industry. On DXpeditions, Don was eagerly followed by most of the DXing world. Martti, OH2BH, wanted to emulate his efforts and become of his kind. What did Don do to create this following?

It was Christmas 2016 when Don Miller, W9WNV, and Martti Laine, OH2BH, gathered at Martti's Finland home at his 70th anniversary party. This meeting brought back reminiscences of the days when our industry was still young and provided an interesting playing field for the evolution of our great DX passion. For this visit, Finland was a new country for W9WNV.

During this meeting in Finland, Don was caught on video talking about his earlier operations and his operating methods. Don Miller pioneered many aspects of how we operate now. Split operation, "5NN," pileup management techniques; looking back, many of these techniques were first implemented during Miller's operations.

Don talks about some of these issues in the following Youtube video. Below is a link to "W9WNV -- Visiting Finland in 2016" a video in five parts:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ut1RAGMIFQ8&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8\\_U-Ggvjo2-Y&index=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ut1RAGMIFQ8&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8_U-Ggvjo2-Y&index=1)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bx7DLGPWfWQ&index=2&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8\\_U-Ggvjo2-Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bx7DLGPWfWQ&index=2&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8_U-Ggvjo2-Y)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkZBYlfMsRM&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8\\_U-Ggvjo2-Y&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkZBYlfMsRM&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8_U-Ggvjo2-Y&index=3)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YIUipupD6I&index=4&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8\\_U-Ggvjo2-Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YIUipupD6I&index=4&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8_U-Ggvjo2-Y)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsv96zxlJSg&index=5&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8\\_U-Ggvjo2-Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vsv96zxlJSg&index=5&list=PLX35WB7yZj3dKSMjLM6NV8_U-Ggvjo2-Y)

## International Marconi Day

This year's International Marconi Day will be held on April 22 with more than 25 special event stations participating, including OE17M, run by the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation ORF and the Documentary Archives Radio Communications / QSL Collection.



## Dr DX

The Southern California DX Club (SCDXC) has initiated a programme called Dr DX in which a team of experienced DXers will answer e-mails from fledgling DXers with any sort of question relating to DXing. The club has also produced a slick brochure, which is being distributed to Southern California radio clubs to entice amateurs who are not (yet) DXers into that area of the hobby. Other amateur clubs wishing to obtain a copy of the brochure should email Dr DX ([DrDX@SCDXC.org](mailto:DrDX@SCDXC.org)) with a request and a PDF will be sent to that club. In the SCDXC's effort to promote DXing in general, however, the Southern California DX Club is not limiting the Dr DX programme to just the Los Angeles area but will answer e-mails received from anywhere. With the Dr DX programme, new DXers can ask about equipment, operating technique, antennas, QSLing,

## Day

6 - van Riebeeck Day; **SARL 80 m**

## QSO Party

8 - **Autumn QRP Sprint**

8 to 15 Klein-Karoo Nasionale

## Kunstfees

11 to 17 - Pesach

13 - Holy Thursday

14 - Good Friday

15 - **RAE Registration closes**; Two Oceans Marathon

16 - Easter Sunday

17 - Family Day

18 - **World Amateur Radio Day**; All Schools open

21 to 29 joBerg2C

22 - SARL Noise Floor Workshop

23 - **ZS4 Sprint**

24 - Isra and Mi'raj; **Closing date for articles for the May Radio ZS**

24 to 30 AfrikaBurn, Tankwa Karoo

27 - Freedom Day

27 to 30 Karoo Food festival, Cradock

28 - School Holiday

28 and 29 Prince Albert Town and Olive Festival

## Pocket Prefix for Android

Pocket Prefix version 2.4.2 for Android was uploaded to Google Play on 14 March.

The majority of devices that already have Pocket Prefix installed will receive an automatic update once connected to the web.

However due to an oddity in Google Play it now looks like just over one thousand devices ceased receiving updates after version 2.1.8, so if your device has not been updated to at least v2.4.0 then you should re-install it from Google play in order to benefit from the significant enhancements of the latest version - <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=g4swy.prefixdecoder.lite>

Pocket Prefix is an Android app that was designed by Derek, G4SWY, initially to provide easy offline decoding of Amateur Radio prefixes but with continued development it has evolved

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

etc. DX questions should be e-mailed to Dr DX ([DrDX@SCDXC.org](mailto:DrDX@SCDXC.org)) and those will be forwarded to Dr DX team members who will respond to every question.

## PDXG QSL Management Platform

Members of the Perseverance DX Group (PDXG) are collaborating with MOURX and MOOXO to design and develop a cloud based QSL Management Platform aimed at simplifying the QSL manager's job. "The complexities of handling tens of thousands of QSL cards, e-mails, Not in Log/busted calls requests, returned postal mail pieces and a host of other tasks which were done manually for so many years needed to change". The project began in September 2014 and now the system is fully operational; see <http://www.pdxg.net/> for a summary of information.

## African DX

Uganda, 5X. Anton, ON6NL, is once again active as 5X8C from Entebbe. The length of his stay is currently unknown. Activity will be on various HF bands. QSL via his home call sign, direct, by the Bureau, LoTW or ClubLog.

Ceuta and Melilla, EF9. Jorge, EA9LZ, will be active as EF9R from Ceuta during the CQ WPX SSB Contest (25 and 26 March). QSL via EA5KB direct or LoTW.

Ceuta and Melilla, ED9/EG9. Members of Tortugas CW Group will be active as EG9TOR from Melilla between 18 and 21 May. The group is there for the King of Spain CW Contest (20 and 21 May) using the special call sign ED9T. Team members are Toni, EA4PN, Dany, EA3NN, Xavi, EA3HSJ, Felipe, EA4GMX, Juan Carlos, EA5UF, Jaume, EA5IHK, Jose Luis, EA4JJ, Kin, EA3CV, Gul, EA8ZT, and Mikel, EA2CW. Before the contest, the group will operate mainly CW, but with some SSB and Digital modes on the HF bands. QSL via EA4PN.

## African Islands

### IOTA frequencies

CW: 28 040 24 920 21 040 18 098 14 040 10 114 7 030 3 530 kHz

SSB: 28 560 28 460 24 950 21 260 18 128 14 260 7 055 3 760 kHz



Chagos Islands, VQ9. Jim, ND9M, is once again active as VQ96JC from Diego Garcia Island (IOTA AF-006). He informs OPDX, "I'm hoping to be back on the air later this week... First, I have to make new antennas; the old ones disappeared while I was gone. The operation will be the usual Field Day portable style each evening my time (GMT +6 all year); that is take the boat to the island, lug everything to 'Fire House Park' (where there is actually 110 VAC!), set up the rig and antennas, operate for 3 hours or so, break everything down and pack it all back to the ship - this is because of no more club station on the island.

My VQ96JC license is still valid until July, but I am trying to get in touch with the licensing officer to see if I can change it to "VQ917JC". I've been using year-specific special calls every year starting in 2007 when I started with VQ97JC; my current '96' call is the 10th and last in the string of two-digit calls, so I figured I'd add a digit instead of recycle a previous call sign. All calls here must start with VQ9, so '17' for the year seems like the logical next step. There's no guarantee of the call sign change happening until the ticket is in my hand, but they've always been very cooperative with my special prefix requests." Look for more details to be forthcoming."

Mauritius, 3B8. Nigel, G3TXF, who was active as 3B8/G3TXF in this past weekend's Commonwealth Contest (BERU), will continue to be active until 21 March. Outside contests, Nigel will be mainly on CW on the 30, 17 and 12 metres bands. Look for him to possibly be in the Russian DX Contest (18 and 19 March). QSL via ClubLog's QRSS for direct and Bureau QSLs.

Seychelles, S7. OK1FFU, OK1JKT, OK1NY, OK1RI, OK1VVT and OM5AW will be active as S79Z from Mahe (IOTA AF-024), Seychelles between 6 and 18 April. They will be active on 160 to 10 metres CW and SSB, as well as on 2 m and 70 cm EME. QSL via OM2FY and LoTW.

Guinea Bissau, J5 (IOTA Op!). Josep, EA3BT and YL Nuria, EA3WL will be active as J5B and J5W, respectively, from Rubane Island, Bijagos Archipelago (IOTA AF-020), between 7 and 15 April. The last operation from this IOTA reference was in 2010 (more than 7 years ago!). Activity will be on 40 to 6 metres, possibly 80 m, using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL both call signs via EA3BT or ClubLog's QRSS.

Sao Tome and Principe, S9. Jose, EA5IDQ, will be active as S9CQ from Santana, Sao Tome Island, between 12 and 21 October. Activity will be on 80 to 6 metres using SSB and RTTY. QSL via his home call sign.

into a multi-featured tool for all DXers and shortwave enthusiasts.

Pocket Prefix provides offline lookup of detailed information for callsign prefixes including special event, club, contest and rarely used. It displays DXCC Country, Continent, CQ zone, ITU Zone/Region, DXCC most-wanted rank and UTC offset, as well as whatever geographical and licence detail can be deduced from the prefix.

It uses GPS to obtain your Maidenhead locator (and Worked All Britain square if in UK) and so is able to calculate beam headings and distances from your location to the prefix location.

When connected to the web it integrates real time DX Cluster spot listings (courtesy of DXlite from G7VJR) with easy intelligent filtering and a graphical tuning display with band plan and choice of call signs or DXCC entity names.

Other features include QRZ.com logon and lookup, Q Codes lookup. Beam heading and distance from your QTH to a Maidenhead locator. On screen UTC. Web search based on country regional detail. This app for Android is completely free. It has no ads and no in-app purchases.

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests as compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 13 to 20 March 2017

### 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint

00:00 - 02:00 UTC 13 March

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op

Exchange: Member: RS(T), state, province or country and member no; Non-member: RS(T), state, province or country and power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 31 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://grpcontest.com/4sgrp>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.4sgrp.com/SSS/ssss\\_rules.pdf](http://www.4sgrp.com/SSS/ssss_rules.pdf)

### QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 15 March

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 16 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.grpfoxyhunt.org/winter\\_rules.htm](http://www.grpfoxyhunt.org/winter_rules.htm)

### Phone Fray

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 15 March

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name and state, province or country; non-NA: Name

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KH6/KL7) once per band; Each VE province/territory once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 03:00 UTC 17 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.perluma.com/>

[Phone Fray Contest Rules.pdf](http://www.perluma.com/)

### CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 15 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 16 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 18 March 2017

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.cwops.org/cwt.html>

### RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 15 March

Geographic Focus: United Kingdom

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: United Kingdom

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 16 March 2017

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2017/r80mcc.shtml>

### NAQCC CW Sprint

00:30 - 02:30 UTC 16 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member

2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 20 March 2017

E-mail logs to: [naqcc33@windstream.net](mailto:naqcc33@windstream.net)

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Upload log at: <http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://naqcc.info/sprint/sprint201703.html>

#### QRP Fox Hunt

01:00 - 02:30 UTC 17 March

Geographic Focus: United States

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 02:30 UTC 18 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.qrpfoxyhunt.org/winter\\_rules.htm](http://www.qrpfoxyhunt.org/winter_rules.htm)

#### NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:45 - 02:15 UTC 17 March

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial no, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

#### NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 17 March

Geographic Focus: North America

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Serial No, name and QTH

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

#### BARTG HF RTTY Contest

02:00 UTC 18 March to 02:00 UTC 20 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op Expert All Band; Single Op All Band - QRP,

low or high; Single Op All Band 6 Hours; Single Op Single

Band; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi

Max operating hours: Single Op: 30 hours with at least 3 hour

rest period; Single Op 6 Hours: 6 hours; Multi-Op: 48 hours

Max power: HP: >100 Watts; LP: 100 Watts; QRP: 5 Watts

Exchange: RST, serial no and 4-digit time (UTC)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: DXCC countries once per band; JA, W, VE and VK

areas once per band; Continents once regardless of band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total country/area mults x continents

Submit logs by: 02:00 UTC 27 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://bartg.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.bartg.org.uk/>

#### Russian DX Contest

12:00 UTC 18 March to 12:00 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Awards: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op All Band CW - low or high; Single Op All Band SSB - low or high; Single Op Single Band Mixed; Multi-Single; Multi-Two; SWL

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Ru: RS(T) and 2-character oblast; non-Ru: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country same continent; Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with same country different continent; Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; non-Ru Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ru station; non-Ru Stations: 2 points per QSO with same country; non-Ru Stations: 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; non-Ru Stations: 5 points per QSO with different continent; 5 points per QSO with / MM

Multipliers: Each oblast once per band; Each country once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 12:00 UTC 2 April 2017

E-mail logs to: [logs@rdxc.org](mailto:logs@rdxc.org)

Upload log at: <http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/wwwlog.asp>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.rdx.org/asp/pages/rulesg.asp>

#### Louisiana QSO Party

14:00 UTC 18 March to 02:00 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO

party

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW/Digital, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m

(Continued on page 6)

*(Continued from page 5)*

Classes: CW/Digital - QRP, low or high; Phone - QRP, low or high; Mixed Mode - QRP, low or high; Rover – CW, digital, phone or mixed - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: LA: RS(T) and Parish; non-LA: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per phone QSO; 4 points per CW/Digital

QSO; LA Rovers: add 50 points to score for each parish activated; Bonus: add 100 points to score for working N5LCC at least once

Multipliers: LA stations: Each LA parish, state, province, country once per band per mode; Non-LA stations: Each LA parish once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 18 April 2017

E-mail logs to: [logs@laqp.org](mailto:logs@laqp.org)

Mail logs to: LAQP, Robert Baker, 136 Northwood Drive, West Monroe, LA 71291, USA

Find rules at: [http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso\\_rules.htm](http://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso_rules.htm)

Virginia QSO Party

14:00 UTC 18 March to 02:00 UTC 19 March and 12:00 –

24:00 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: United States/Canada state/province QSO party

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: All, except WARC

Classes: Single Op - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Single - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed; Multi-Multi - fixed, mobile or expedition - high, low or QRP - multi-band or single-band - CW, phone, digital or mixed

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VA: Serial no and county; non-VA: Serial no and state, province or DX

Work stations: Once per band per mode

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 15 April 2017

E-mail logs to: [vqp@verizon.net](mailto:vqp@verizon.net)

Mail logs to: VA QSO Party, Call Box 599, Sterling, VA 20167, USA

Find rules at: [http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2017\\_VQP/2017\\_VQP\\_Rules.html](http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2017_VQP/2017_VQP_Rules.html)

Feld Hell Sprint

20:00 - 21:59 UTC 18 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 22 March 2017

Upload log at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprints/leprechaun-sprint>

UBA Spring SSB Contest

07:00 – 11:00 UTC 19 March

Geographic Focus: Belgium

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single SWL

Max power: non-QRP: >10 watts; QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: ON: RS, serial no and UBA Section; non-ON: RS and serial no

QSO Points: 3 points per QSO with Belgian station

Multipliers: Each UBA Section

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 2 April 2017

E-mail logs to: [ubaspring@uba.be](mailto:ubaspring@uba.be)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.uba.be/hf/contest-rules/spring-contest>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 20 March

Geographic Focus: Worldwide

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 March 2017

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://qrpcontest.com/pigrun/>

Bucharest Contest

18:00 - 20:59 UTC 20 March

Geographic Focus: Romania

Participation: Worldwide

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - QRP or low - 2-band or single band; Multi-Op Low Power - CW, SSB, digital or mixed - 2-band or single band; SWL

Max power: LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: YO: RS(T), QSO no Sector or County; non-YO: RS(T), QSO no and Country Code

*(Continued on page 7)*

(Continued from page 6)

Work stations: Once per mode

QSO Points: 2 points per QSO: YO3 - YO3 or YO - YO or YO - Foreign; 4 points per QSO: YO3 - YO or YO - YO3 or YO3 - Foreign

Multipliers: Each YO county; Each YO3 sector; Each country code

Score Calculation: Total score = total score of each segment (total QSO points x total mults)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 31 March 2017

E-mail logs to: [feny03jw@yahoo.com](mailto:feny03jw@yahoo.com)

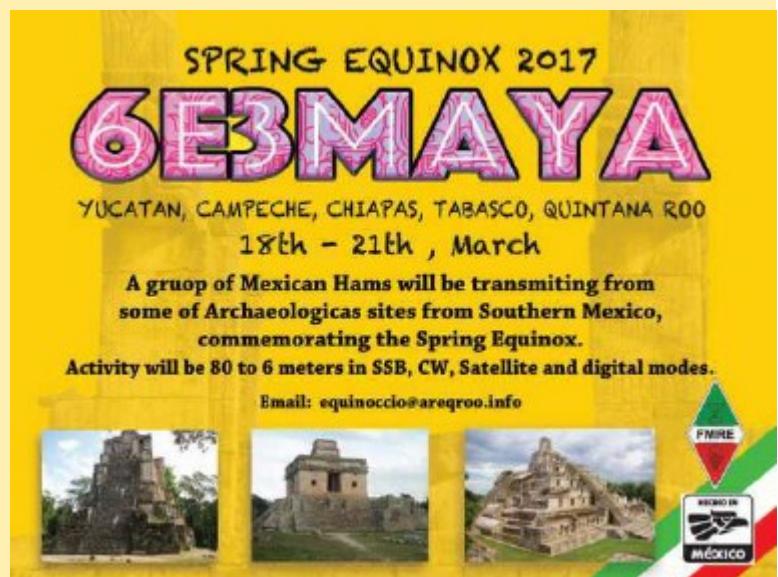
Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://yo3test201x.blogspot.ro/p/blog-page.html>

## Next Week's Contests

CLARA Chatter Party, 17:00 UTC 21 March to 17:00 UTC 22 March and 17:00 UTC 25 March to 17:00 UTC 26 March  
SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 22 March  
QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 22 March  
Phone Fray, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 22 March  
CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 22 March and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 23 March  
RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 23 March

QRP Fox Hunt, 01:00 - 02:30 UTC 24 March  
NCCC RTTY Sprint, 01:45 - 02:15 UTC 24 March  
NCCC Sprint, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 24 March  
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 00:00 UTC 25 March to 23:59 UTC 26 March  
FOC QSO Party, 00:00 - 23:59 UTC 25 March  
UBA Spring 6 m Contest, 06:00 – 10:00 UTC 26 March



## HF Happenings

Items used with acknowledgement to the ARRL Letter, the ARRL DX News, the ARRL Contest Update, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Newsletter, WIA-News, the RSGB News, DxCoffee, Southgate ARC News, DX World and the Amateur Radio Newsletter